provide for more powers to the elected members, enhancement of financial assistance to the Cantonment Boards, to liberalise FSI restrictions and to further liberalise land policy.

Training for Indian Team

300. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the need for taking urgent steps to prepare and train the Indian team for the Asian Games 1998 to be held at Jakarta; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Sports Authority of India have already held meetings with some of the National Federations and reviewed the progress in preparation of National teams for 1998 Asian Games to be held at Bangkok. Training and competition programmes have also been finalised and coaching camps for various disciplines are already in progress.

Review of the progress of the teams and the competition programmes with the remaining Federations is expected to be completed by March, 1997.

Opening of New Hospital

301. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open All India Institute of Medical Science type hospital in the North-Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong was set up as an autonomous body with the main objective of *inter-alia* providing advanced and specialised medical care to the people of the entire North Eastern Region at super-speciality level in selected fields.

During Phase I of the project, it is envisaged to set up Interim Facilities for providing super-speciality services in Cardiology and Gastro-interology with a 30 bedded Hospital.

(c) Does not arise.

New National Population Policy

302. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have worked out a new National Population Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the details of the action plan, if any, laid down to implement the policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) On the basis of comments received from other Ministries/States on the preliminary draft National Population Policy prepared by an expert group, a Statement on the National Population Policy was drafted and laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in reply to the Starred Question No. 156 answered on 2nd December. 1996. This draft statement alongwith a draft Note for the Cabinet has been circulated among Ministries/Departments concerned for final comments before seeking the approval of the Cabinet.

AIDS Cases

303. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the year since when National AIDS Control Programme is being implemented in the country;

(b) the number of HIV cases detected in the country during the last three years, till date, year-wise;

(c) the States from which such cases have been detected;

(d) the main sources of the transmission of HIV cases;

(e) the treatment provided to patients of this dreaded diseases in Eighth Five year plan;

(f) whether any specific scheme has been formulated to prevent the cases of AIDS;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether any special cells have been set up by the Government for testing the cases of AIDS in the Hospitals; and

(i) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) AIDS Control Programme has been

operational since 1987. However, National AIDS Control Organisation was set up in 1992.

(b) and (c) A Statement is attached.

(d) There are three known sources of transmission of HIV infection; namely (i) Unsafe Sex, (ii) HIV infected blood transfusion including sharing contaminated needles and syringes; and (iii) An infected mother may transmit the virus to the foetus.

(e) The main thrust of the programme is on prevention. However, there being no proven treatment of AIDS, the persons with AIDS are given treatment for the opportunistic infections.

(f) and (g) A comprehensive scheme for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS is being implemented throughout the country as a 100% central scheme since September, 23, 1992. The important strategies of the scheme consist of (i) creating mass awareness about HIV/AIDS, (ii) Blood safety and rational use of blood, (iii) control of STDs and (iv) surveillance and clinical management of HIV/AIDS cases.

(h) and (i) State AIDS cells have been established in all the States and Union Territories for the implementation of the National AIDS Control Programme. 62 Surveillance Centres and 154 Zonal Blood testing centres have also been established throughout the country where HIV/AIDS testing facilities are available.

Statement

S. No.	States/UTs	* Upto Dec. 1994	*Upto Dec. 1995	*Upto Dec. 1996
		HIV Positive Cases		
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	143	215	290
2.	Assam	6	134	150
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
4.	A & N Islands (U.T.)	—	82	85
5.	Bihar	3	3	17
6.	Chandigarh (U.T.)			184
7.	Punjab	165	184	4
8.	Delhi	994	978	1244
9.	Daman & Diu (U.T.)	—	8	8
10.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (U.T.)	—	—	1
11.	Goa	357	752	1040
12.	Gujarat	513	517	527
13.	Haryana	120	136	219
14.	Himachal Pradesh	13	13	71
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	10	34
16.	Karnataka	1569	1995	2630
17.	Kerala	180	180	215
18.	Lakshadweep (U.T.)	2	5	7
19.	Madhya Pradesh	64	214	345
20.	Maharashtra	5482	6310	32014
21.	Manipur	2758	3989	3712
22.	Mizoram	53	65	72
23.	Meghalaya	—	53	57
24.	Nagaland	112	261	261
25.	Orissa	33	144	205
26.	Pondicherry (U.T.)	1009	1599	2069
27.	Rajasthan	43	53	125
28.	Sikkim	—	1	1
29.	Tamil Nadu	2766	2805	2986
30.	Tripura	—	13	13
31.	Uttar Pradesh	475	593	689
32.	West Bengal	251	252	252
	Total	17121	21564	49527

* All Cumulative figures.

[Translation]

Bridges on N.H. in U.P.

304. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bridges constructed on the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of bridges proposed to be constructed during the current year and the details in this regard; and

(c) the number of bridges proposed to be constructed during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Two.

(b) Five bridges are targeted to be completed during the current year (1996-97). The details are as under :

(1) Bridge over Sarain river on Sitapur Bypass on NH-24.

(2) Khajuri bridge in Km. 70 of NH-29.